

## San Diego Police Department

## **Traffic Safety Office**

9265 AERO DRIVE • SAN DIEGO • CALIFORNIA • 92123 • 619-818-4860

To Maintain

PRESS RELEASE

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LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES RECEIVE GRANTS FOR SPECIAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT AND CRASH PREVENTION

Providing the

Highest

Quality Police

Services.

San Diego CA— The San Diego Police Department will host a press conference at the San Diego County Administration Building Wednesday, October 28th to announce these grants and how we will be working together to reach our goals and increase safety on the roadways in the San Diego region.

Numerous local agencies have been awarded Traffic Safety Grants from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) for a year-long program of special enforcement and public awareness efforts to prevent traffic-related deaths and injuries. All of these local agencies will use the funding as part of the region's ongoing commitment to keep our roadways safe and improve the quality of life through both enforcement and education.

After falling dramatically between 2006 and 2010, the number of persons killed and injured in traffic collisions has been slowly rising. Particularly alarming are recent increases in pedestrian and bicycle fatalities, the growing dangers of distracting technologies, and the emergence of drug-impaired driving. This grant funding will provide opportunities to combat these and other devastating problems such as drunk driving, speeding, and crashes at intersections.

"Overall, California's roadways are among the safest in the nation," said OTS Director Rhonda Craft. "But to meet future mobility, safety, and accessible transportation objectives, we have to reverse this recent trend in order to reach our common goal – zero deaths on our roadways. The Office of Traffic Safety and these law enforcement and municipal agencies want to work with everyone to create a culture of traffic safety across San Diego and the state."

Please join representatives of the following agencies to hear about their upcoming traffic safety grants:

San Diego Police Department

National City Police Department

San Diego County Sheriff's

La Mesa Police Department

Department

**Escondido Police Department** 

San Diego County Probation

Chula Vista Fire Department

Chula Vista Police Department







Other Grant Recipients and agencies partners will be on hand to talk and answer questions. These include, but are not limited to:

UCSD /TREDS

Circulate San Diego

San Diego County Bike Coalition

The press conference will start at 11:00 am on the west side of the County Administration Building, along North Harbor Drive between Ash and Grape streets, with Steve Lykins of Mothers Against Drunk Driving acting as the Emcee.

Scheduled to speak are:

Rhonda Craft, Executive Director; California Office of Traffic Safety

Shelley Zimmerman, Chief of Police; San Diego Police Department

Michael Barnett, Assistant Sheriff; San Diego County Sheriff's Department

Mack Jenkins, Chief Probation Officer; San Diego County Probation

**Closing Remarks** 

Steve Lykins, Executive Director; Mothers Against Drunk Driving; San Diego Affiliate

Representatives from the other participating agencies will have representatives available to speak after the press conference. A Spanish speaker will also be available for interviews.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact San Diego Police Officer Mark McCullough at (619) 818-4860.



